## Abstract of the Disclosur

A light branching apparatus includes an optical splitter and a first wavelength dispersion compensator. The optical splitter splits an optical signal for a plurality of channels on a first optical fiber into at least a first optical channel signal on a first channel of a second optical fiber and a plurality of second optical channel signals on a plurality of second channels of a third optical fiber. The first wavelength dispersion compensator is provided for the first channel and compensates

wavelength dispersion of the first optical channel

signal due to the optical splitter.

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**